

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 OES-06 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1301

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL FUKUOKA

AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PARM, JA, US

SUBJECT: HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI MAYORS RECEIVED BY GOVERNOR
SCRANTON NOV 30, 1976

REF: (A) TOKYO 17622 AND PREVIOUS

(B) STATE 285792 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: MAYOR TAKESHI ARAKI OF HIROSHIMA AND MAYOR
YOSHITAKE MOROTANI OF NAGASAKI WERE RECEIVED BY GOV SCRANTON
P.M. NOV 30. ACCOMPANYING THE MAYORS WERE MR. KAORU OGURA,
FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHIEF, MAYOR'S OFFICE, HIROSHIMA CITY HALL
AS WELL AS M.D.'S HIROOMI MATSUBARA, EXECUTIVE MEMBER,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, HIROSHIMA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, AND GOKO
OBUCHI, VICE PRESIDENT, HIROSHIMA COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE
OF ATOMIC BOMB SURVIVORS. SCRANTON EMPHASIZED THE
IMPORTANCE OF THEIR MISSION TO UNDERLINE THE DANGERS OF
NUCLEAR WAR AND TO PROMOTE DISARMAMENT.

2. THE MAYORS' MESSAGE WAS CLEAR AS WAS THAT OF THE M.D.'S.

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THERE HAD BEEN 200 THOUSAND DEATHS FROM THE ATOMIC BOMB AT

HIROSHIMA AND 140 THOUSAND AT NAGASAKI. ADDITIONALLY, MANY OF SURVIVORS SUFFERED DISEASES AND SOME WERE STILL DYING FROM THE EFFECTS. STOMACH CANCERS HAD BEGUN TO BECOME SIGNIFICANT. THE JAPANESE WONDERED ABOUT SURVIVAL AND ANNIHILATION IN AN AGE OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. THEY HOPED FOR PEACE AND PRAYED THAT THE US AND USSR WOULD DO ALL IN THEIR POWER TO AVOID REPETITIONS OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI. THEY REGRETTED THAT, THESE TRAGEDIES NOTWITHSTANDING, SOME COUNTRIES STILL SOUGHT TO DEVELOP WEAPONS. THEREFORE, THE MAYORS AND THEIR PARTY HAD COME TO THE UN TO TRY TO PROMOTE DISARMAMENT.

3. SCRANTON IN REPLY STRESSED THE ABSOLUTE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERYONE OF US TO INSURE THAT THERE BE NO REPETITIONS OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI. EACH OF US MUST MAKE SURE THAT THIS NEVER HAPPENED AGAIN. SCRANTON SAID HE HAD SERVED FOR SEVEN YEARS ON OUR GENERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ARMS LIMITATION AND DISARMAMENT. HE CONTINUED THAT HIS DEEP CONCERN OVER THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD WAS ONE OF THE KEY REASONS WHY HE HAD DECIDED TO SERVE AS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN. THE GOV THOUGHT THE MAYORS' TRIP EXTREMELY USEFUL BECAUSE IT TENDED TO POINT UP WHAT THE JAPANESE HAVE SUFFERED. SCRANTON STRESSED THAT THE MORE ONE CAN DRAMATIZE THIS THE BETTER. ONE MUST TELL THE WORLD WHAT DID HAPPEN AND WHAT COULD HAPPEN.

4. SCRANTON AND THE MAYORS ALSO STRESSED THE KEY IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING AND SOLIDIFYING OUTSTANDING US-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

5. THE MAYORS, WHOSE STAY IN NEW YORK WOULD EXTEND FROM NOV 28 TO DEC 4, SAID THAT THEY WOULD BE CONVEYING THEIR MESSAGE TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM DEC 1. THEY HAD ALREADY SEEN THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF AUSTRALIA, CANADA, AND FRANCE AND WOULD BE SEEING MORE. THEY WOULD ALSO SEE UNGA PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE.

6. THE MAYORS COMMENTED MOST FAVORABLY ON THE RECEPTION THEY HAD RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON.

7. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED TO USUN BY A CONSIDERABLE JAPANESE PRESS CONTINGENT.

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